



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



50X1

13 JULY 1966

~~TOP SECRET~~

DAILY BRIEF
13 JULY 1966

1. South Vietnam

The cabinet changes--finally announced today after repeated delays--are not spectacular.

Defense Minister Co retains all his functions, suggesting that Ky and Chief of State Thieu decided not to risk controversy over any downgrading of Co.

Two Buddhists, both endorsed by the Buddhist Institute, were dropped in the reshuffle, whereas another Buddhist not affiliated with the institute was made deputy premier for cultural and social matters.

No reaction to the changes has been reported from government functionaries or from the remnants of the Buddhist Institute.

2. Communist World

The press in Czechoslovakia--following the lead of Soviet newspapers--is now commenting directly on "the great cultural revolution" in Communist China. Last Saturday, for example, Prague's leading party daily noted that philosophy in China is now liberated from scientific research and that "even simple men without theoretical knowledge, but armed with Mao's ideas, are able to solve complicated philosophical problems."

To illustrate this point, the Czech paper cited an article by a Chinese ping-pong champion dealing with "the dialectics of table tennis"; and another article by a Chinese hairdresser, which utilized the "results of several years of study of Mao's works to discover the general laws of hairdressing."

3. Congo

Former premier Tshombé and the South African mercenaries in the eastern Congo are said to be involved in a plot against the Mobutu government.

50X1



4. Syria

[redacted] the political and economic situation throughout his country is still deteriorating badly. On the political side, [redacted] continuing disagreements among the military leaders and covert machinations by the Nasirists. On the economic, there is a day-by-day increase in unemployment and an agricultural crisis caused by the lack of rain.

50X1

50X1

50X1

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET